REMARKS

Amendments

By this Preliminary Amendment, the claims of International Application No. PCT/JP2004/015469 have been amended to delete multiple dependencies. These amendments have been made in the interest of rapid prosecution and without prejudice to Applicants' right to prosecute claims of similar or different scope to the unamended claims in one or more continuation applications.

Conclusion

It is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance and such action at an early date is earnestly requested. If, however, there are any outstanding issues which can be usefully discussed by telephone, the Examiner is asked to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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